

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /030 W

----- 043030

R 081315Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 736

UNCLAS BUCARST 7261

USIA FOR IMV/C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, RO

SUBJECT: SHIPMENT OF "LEADBELLY"

REF: USIA 36240; USIA 33926

1. POST SHIPPED "LEADBELLY" PER INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL B TO IMV/NEW YORK ATTN JOSEPH VOLATILE ON NOVEMBER 30. POUCH X3-9457, REGISTRY NUMBER 2487053.

2. FM WILL BE SENT NEXT FEW DAYS ON RESULTS "NEW DIRECTORS FILM FESTIVAL."

3. WOULD APPRECIATE IMV ADVISING PARAMOUNT OF OUR APPRECIATION FOR LOAN OF "LEADBELLY." FILM WAS SHOWN ON 3 OCCASIONS AND ATTRACTED 550 PEOPLE (IN THEATRE WHICH NORMALLY SEATS 120). REACTION WAS VERY FAVORABLE AND SOME FILM FIGURES REPORTED THAT "THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN THIS FILM BEING SHOWN HERE." REPRESENTATIVES OF ROMANIAFILM DID ATTEND ONE FILM SHOWING ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT ADVISE US WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL CONTACT PARAMOUNT FOR POSSIBLE PURCHASE. STORY CANDIDLY REFLECTS THE DIFFICULTIES OF NON-CONFORMING YOUNG BLACK GROWING UP IN THE SOUTH OF THE 1930S, A PERIOD IN WHICH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND RACIAL RELATIONS WERE CHARACTERIZED BY INTENSE DISCRIMINATION. FILM'S HONEST TREATMENT OF THESE ISSUES AS WELL AS ITS TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE IMPRESSED LOCAL AUDIENCE. MANY IN AUDIENCE WERE FAMILIAR WITH LEADBELLY'S MUSIC THOUGH THEY KNEW LITTLE ABOUT THE MAN OR HIS

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LIFE. AUDIENCE INCLUDED FILM CRITICS, ACTORS AND DIRECTORS, PHY-

SICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENTISTS, ROMANIAN DIPLOMATS, DOCTORS AND MANY STUDENTS FROM THE LOCAL THEATRE INSTITUTE. POST RECEIVED MANY COMPLIMENTS ON QUALITY OF FILM AND ITS INTELLIGENT AND SYMPATHETIC HANDLING OF WHAT WAS OBVIOUSLY A COMPLEX AND EMOTIONAL SUBJECT. BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Subject: SHIPMENT OF "LEADBELLY"
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